

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/679,716

Examiner

Quang N. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

SODERBERG ET AL.

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment B filed on 08/27/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-17,25 and 27-34.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 04 October 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____ | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Allowable Subject Matter

1. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Pursuant to MPEP 606.01, the title has been changed to read:

-- SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TRANSPARENTLY REDIRECTING CLIENT REQUESTS FOR CONTENT USING A FRONT-END INDICATOR TO PRESERVE THE VALIDITY OF LOCAL CACHING AT THE CLIENT SYSTEM --

3. Claims 1, 3-17, 25 and 27-34 are allowed

4. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

In interpreting the claims, in light of the specification and the applicant's arguments filed on 08/27/2004, the Examiner finds the claimed invention to be patentably distinct from the prior art of record.

Mighdoll-Fielding teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Mighdoll-Fielding teaches a system and method for providing a document to a client coupled to a proxy server, wherein the proxy server (*i.e., front-end server*) accesses a remote server on behalf of a client to retrieve a document in response to a request from the client and stores the information relating to the requested document to be used by the server in transcoding the document (see Mighdoll, Abstract, C4:L64 – C5:L9). Mighdoll-Fielding also teaches the proxy server receiving from a back-end server, a redirect response identifying one or more other back-end servers where the content is stored (see Mighdoll, Fig. 9 and C12:L52 – C13:L30).

However, the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest individually or in combination a system and method of transparently redirect a request for content such that the client system is unaware of the redirection comprising the front-end server performing the acts of: receiving a request for the content from the client system, ***the front-end server making it appear as if the front-end server is the source of the content, which actually is stored at a back-end server***, directing the request to a particular back-end server to get a redirect response identifying one or more other back-end servers where the content is stored; automatically and without client system intervention, redirecting the request to a redirect back-end server identified in the redirect response; ***receiving and sending the requested content to the client system so that any local caching of the content received from the front-end server remains valid at the client system regardless of which of the one or more back-end servers actually stores the content.***

The Examiner finds the Applicant's arguments to be persuasive. The Applicant argued in substance that the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest a front-end server making it appear as if the front-end server is the source of the content which actually is stored at a back-end server and sending requested content to the client system from the front-end server so that any local caching of the content received from the front-end server remains valid at the client system regardless of which of the one or more back-end servers actually stores the content (as in claims 1, 14 and 25); and a back-end server examining a content request for a front-end indicator, and if the front-end indicator is present in the content request, creating a redirect response to the content request that includes a list identifying a plurality of redirect back-end servers where the content is stored so that the front-end server can load balance among the plurality of redirect back-end servers capable of satisfying the content request, and otherwise creating a redirect response to the content request that includes a single redirect back-end server where the content is stored (as in claims 11 and 31) (see Remarks, pages 14-15).

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-8190.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (703) 305-4003. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Quang N. Nguyen

Examiner


RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER